

REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the thorough review of the present application as reflected in the Official Action mailed May 19, 2004. Applicant also appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 5, 13 and 14. Applicant has cancelled Claims 1-4 and written Claim 5 in independent form. Applicant has amended the dependent claims to correct dependency in light of the cancellation of Claims 1-4. Applicant has also amended Claim 11 to incorporate the recitations of Claims 12 and 13 and has, therefore, cancelled Claims 12 and 13. Thus, Claims 5-11 and 14 are in a form indicated as allowable in the Official Action.

Applicants have amended Claims 15 and 16 to recite that "the user defined function comprises a first class which obtains electronic mail information associated with the database entry and a second class which provides the electronic mail message information to the electronic mail system" and "the UDF is configured to wrap access to the electronic mail system utilizing an application program interface which provides abstract layering for the electronic mail system," which corresponds to the language of Claim 13. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claims 15 and 16 are also patentable over the cited references for at least substantially the same reasons as Claim 13 is indicated as allowable in the Official Action.

In light of the above discussion, Applicant submits that the rejections based on 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 are obviated in light of the amendments described above.

Conclusion

In light of the above discussion, Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (919) 854-1400.

It is not believed that an extension of time and/or additional fee(s)-including fees for net addition of claims-are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. In the event, however, that an extension of time is necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such an extension is hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a). Any additional fees believed to be

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due in connection with this paper may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 09-0461.

Respectfully submitted,



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